

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01184 191446Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 /059 W
-----191449 113520 /41

O R 191350Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1858
USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1184

RIYADH FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 19

1. SYRIAN MEDIA GAVE PRINCIPAL COVERAGE TO VISIT FRENCH
FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD. THAWRA (ONLY DAMASCUS DAILY PUBLISHED
SATURDAY) HEADLINED "SYRIAN-FRENCH DISCUSSIONS DEAL WITH TOPIC
OF PEACE IN THE MIDEAST. KHADDAM AND DE GUIRINGAUD CAUTION:
IF JUST SETTLEMENT NOT REACHED, A NEW FLARE-UP WILL THREATEN
THE AREA." ARTICLE REPORTED DE GUIRINGAUD AND KHADDAM MET
FOR TWO HOURS. REMARKS KHADDAM DELIVERED AT DINNER WERE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01184 191446Z

EXCERPTED; HE CALLED FOR INVITING PLO "TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE SEARCH FOR ANY COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT OF MIDEAST PROBLEM"
AND TERMED ITS PARTICIPATION "FUNDAMENTAL CONDITION WITHOUT
WHICH PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE CANNOT BE MADE.." DE GUIRINGAUD
IN REPLY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SYRIA'S EFFORTS IN LEBANON
AND DECLARED THAT HIS TALKS WITH KHADDAM "INDICATE THE POSI-
TIVE SPIRIT WITH WHICH SYRIA IS PROMOTING PEACE EFFORTS...BY

WAY OF NEGOTIATION." HE EXPRESSED FRENCH SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLES ON WHICH INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS AND BEEN REACHED INCLUDING "ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE TO EXPRESS ITS IDENTITY AND ESTABLISH ITS INDEPENDENT STATE."

2. THAWRA ALSO GAVE FRONT PAGE ATTENTION TO SECRETARY'S TOUR THROUGH REGION. IT REPORTED IN GENERAL TERMS MEETINGS SECRETARY HELD WITH KING HUSSEIN AND EGYPTIAN AND LEBANESE LEADERS. LATTER PART OF SAME ARTICLE DEALT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN, FOLLOWS ALLON, AND AMB DINITZ. RABIN REMARKS THAT HE COULD FIND ALMOST NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND ISRAELI POSITIONS TOWARD PALESTINIAN ISSUE WAS REPORTED; AS WAS ALLON'S COMMENT THAT THE SECRETARY HAD PROMISED ISRAELI WEAPON "SIMILAR" TO THE CONCUSSION BOMBS. DINITZ QUOTED TELLING ISRAELI TELEVISION THAT DECISION TO CANCEL SALE WAS "ILLOGICAL AND UNPRECEDENTED."

3. STATEMENT PRES CARTER MADE TO EMPLOYEES OF US DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR CARRIED IN SPECIAL BOX ON FRONT PAGE. PRESIDENT REPORTED AS RECOGNIZING THAT MIDEAST AMONG PRIORITIES OF US FOREIGN POLICY BUT CAUTIONING THAT US COULD NOT EXERT PRESSURE ON PARTIES TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT. ARTICLE CAPTIONED, "CARTER: MIDEAST PROBLEM OCCUPIES PRIORITY IN AMERICAN POLICY."

4. THAWRA ALSO CONTAINED REUTER ITEM REPORTING STATEMENT BY ARIEL ELIAV, FORMER ISRAELI CABINET MINISTER, CONCERNING CONTACTS HE HELD WITH PLO REPS DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO EUROPE. ELIAV CLAIMED HE HAD MET WITH HARD-LINE PALESTINIAN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 DAMASC 01184 191446Z

LEADERS AND SAID HE HOPED FOR EMERGENCE MORE MODERATE ATTITUDE AMONG PLO LEADERSHIP THROUGH MEDIATION OF PERSONALITIES SUCH AS PIERRE MENDES-FRANCE AND PRES. HOUPHOUET-BIAIGNY.

5. MAIN EDITORIAL CHARACTERIZED PROSPECTS FOR SETTLEMENT AS "NOT GLOOMY." READERS WERE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD NOT BE "OBJECTIVE OR ACCURATE" TO PLACE "ODDS" ON ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE WITHIN DESIGNATED TIME PERIOD SINCE ALL FACTORS FAVORING PEACE ONLY "PRESNET ON ARAB SIDE, WITH A CORRESPONDING TOTAL REJECTION ON THE ISRAELI SIDE." EDITORIAL ADMONISHED THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES "LIES WITH EVERYBODY." PELLETREAU

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC01184
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770060-0437
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770225/aaaaavow.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6b5ff2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3275250
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 19
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
To: STATE RIYADH
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6b5ff2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009